

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 06160 181630Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00  
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SSM-03 IO-13  
/067 W

-----085000 181633Z /43

O R 181600Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7834  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 6160

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: IS, US, UNSC  
SUBJECT: POST REPORTS U.S. CONSIDERING CHANGE IN 242

1. THE FOLLOWING PARAS ARE EXTRACTED FROM A FRONTPAGE ARTICLE IN AUGUST 18 JERUSALEM POST UNDER THE HEADLINE "ATHERTON: WOULD CONSIDER PROPOSALS TO CHANGE 242 'ON THEIR MERITS'":
2. BEGIN TEXT: THE U.S. IS APPARENTLY SENDING CONFLICTING SIGNALS REGARDING ITS STAND SHOULD AN EFFORT GET STARTED TO CHANGE UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 242.
3. THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S SPOKESMAN, HODDING CARTER, TOLD REPORTERS ON TUESDAY THAT THE U.S. WOULD OPPOSE AN EFFORT TO REVISE TO REVIST THE RESOLUTION IN ANY WAY OR TO SUPERSEDE THE RESOLUTION WITH A NEW ONE.

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4. BUT YESTERDAY MORNING, DURING A BREAKFAST MEETING WITH REPORTERS, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE ALFRED ATHERTON LEFT THE DOOR AJAR SLIGHTLY FOR AMERICA POSSIBLE GOING ALONG WITH SUCH AN EFFORT. HE SAID THAT THE U.S. WOULD HAVE TO CONSIDER ANY RESOLUTION INTRODUCED AT THE COUNCIL ON ITS MERITS.

5. ATHERTON DID MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THE U.S. PREFERS NOT TO SEE THE SCENE OF ARAB-ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS SHIFT TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL FOR FEAR THAT EFFORTS WOULD GET BOGGED DOWN IN PUBLIC RHETORIC.

6. AT YESTERDAY'S DAILY BRIEFING, SPOKESMAN CARTER SAID THAT HE STOOD BY HIS ORIGINAL CLEAR-CUT STATEMENTS OF THE DAY BEFORE. HE SAID THAT HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT ATHERTON HAD SAID. HE ASSUMED THAT NO CHANGE IN U.S. POLICY HAD TAKEN PLACE OVER-NIGHT AND WOULD TRY TO CLEAR UP THE APPARENT DISCREPANCY. END TEXT. DAVAR HAD A SIMILAR FRONTPAGE REPORT.

7. DURING MY MEETING THIS MORNING WITH BEGIN, DAYAN, AND EVRON I REFERRED TO THESE STORIES AND INFORMED THEM THEY WERE ABSOLUTELY INCORRECT. I READ THEM PARA 2 OF STATE 195931 REGARDING WHAT WAS POSTED AFTER YESTERDAY'S NOON PRESS BRIEFING ON THIS SUBJECT AND EMPHASIZED TO THEM THAT OUR POSITION ON 242 HAS NOT CHANGE. BEGIN WAS OBVIOUSLY REASSURED. LEWIS

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, AMENDMENTS, RESOLUTINS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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22 May 2009  
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